

REMARKS

Entry of this amendment in this application prior to its examination, and favorable consideration of this application, are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 through 48 are now in this case. Claims 4 through 6, 9 through 11, 14, 16, 21, 27 through 29, 32 through 34, 37, 39, and 44 are amended. Claims 47 and 48 are added.

Claims 4 through 6, 9 through 11, 14, 16, 21, 27 through 29, 32 through 34, 37, 39, and 44 are amended to change their dependency from multiple dependency to dependency on a single claim.

Claims 47 and 48 are added to more completely cover all aspects of Applicant's invention. No new matter is presented by these new claims, given the clear support for their requirements in the specification.

Favorable consideration of this application, following entry of this preliminary amendment, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Rodney M. Anderson
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Applicant bring the references listed on the enclosed PTO/SB/08 to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office relative to this application.

To the extent that the references are not U.S. Patents or U.S. Patent Publications,¹ copies are provided. English language abstracts are provided for the Japan 60-019907 reference and for the DE 43 23 644 reference², and as such no further statement of relevance is provided for those references.³ A copy of the UK Search Report is enclosed, and provides a statement of the relevance of the DE 20301008 reference, and as such no further statement of relevance is provided for that reference. A copy of the International Search Report and of the Written Opinion of the International Search Authority, from the PCT International Application to which this application claims priority, is also enclosed for the benefit of the Patent and Trademark Office.

¹ 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a), *as amended* effective October 21, 2004.

² In the form of the front page of WO 95/02755, which is believed to be a counterpart of DE 43 23 644.

³ 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(i) and (ii).

By citing these references, Applicants do not admit that any of these references is, or is considered to be, material to the patentability of any of the claims of this application.⁴

Favorable consideration of this application, following entry of this preliminary amendment, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rodney M. Anderson', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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⁴ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(h).